

# City Council Discusses Local Historic District Designation

by Barbara Hopkins

“To be or not to be” a Local Historic District designated by Prince George’s County: that was the question debated by Greenbelt City Councilmembers at the meeting on Monday, February 11, while the specter of county control haunted the proceedings. The question goes back as far as 1991 when Greenbelt Homes, Inc. (GHI) approached city officials with a request for such a designation for GHI.

Current consideration of the issue follows a report by staff from the city’s Department of Planning and Community Development after their review of “The Draft Potential Greenbelt District Design Guidelines,” a document created by staff from the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC). The M-NCPPC draft was based on a three-year study of the Ad Hoc Historic District Study Committee, which had been composed of GHI members.

Celia Craze, director of the Department of Planning and Community Development, went over the report to council.

## Background

Greenbelt is currently designated a National Historic Landmark and National Register Historic District, both of which provide a certain amount of protection from projects of the state and federal governments. Primarily, however, they are honorary designations that do not create regulations governing city projects. Local Historic District designation would afford additional protections to the historic characteristics of the designated area through county building and zoning regulations and provide additional tax benefits to property owners as well. The Local Historic District, which is administered through the Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) of Prince George’s County, would exert control over design elements of the community.

This same body would grant or deny tax credit applications and approve exterior modifications on property within the zone. It is an advisor to the county planning board on applications for development affecting a historic district.

Craze said that since consider-

ation of becoming an historic district first began, a new 25 per cent tax credit to individual property owners has been developed for historic renovations. She suggested it could present an alternative financial benefit to Local Historic District designation, hopefully one that would not require ceding control to the county.

## Staff Recommendations

For multiple reasons the Greenbelt Department of Planning and Community Development staff advise against going for the designation. Craze said the draft document is very vague. She recommends that it be re-formatted so that goals and objectives, guidelines, and regulations are set apart from each other and clarified with more precise language and defined terms.

Since the project has expanded from the original request that would have affected GHI property only to include some properties that do not share the same historic period, the document should have separate sections, she said, outlining what would be re-

See **HISTORIC**, page 12

# BARC Sale Removed from Bill BARC Acreage Not What It Once Was

by Elaine Skolnik

When Bill S-1731 was reintroduced recently in the U. S. Senate, the provision that would have allowed parts of the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center (BARC) to be sold off had been stricken from the bill. Senators Paul Sarbanes and Barbara Mikulski and Congressman Steny Hoyer had predicted and worked for this outcome. The bill, passed recently by both the Senate and House of Representatives, is currently in a conference committee. After the bill’s language is finalized, it will be sent to the President, who is expected to sign the legislation.

Hoyer told the News Review, “I am pleased that Senator Sarbanes was able to remove the provision in the farm bill that would have threatened BARC.

See **BARC SALE**, page 2

*(The following article by Elaine Skolnik is reprinted from the July 25, 1996 issue of the News Review.)*

For more than 50 years, a gradual chipping away has reduced Beltsville Agricultural Research Center (BARC) land from approximately 14,000 acres to its current 6,500 acres. Pressure by federal, state, county and city officials has played a major role, on the other hand, in preventing the wholesale selling off of BARC’s land by the federal government to private parties.

In 1979, a proposal to excess (declare surplus and sell off or transfer to another Federal agency) 3,390 acres of the then 8,220-acre center property drew fire from U.S. Senator Paul Sarbanes, and Congresswoman Gladys Spellman and others. At issue was a 2,700-acre section east of Soil Conservation Road, which provided buffer zones between BARC and both the abutting Goddard Space Flight Center and the Patuxent Wildlife Refuge.

Agriculture officials feared that “any additional reductions would seriously impair BARC’s ability to carry on, jeopardizing its reputation as a national showcase of agricultural research and as the leading, most diversified agricultural research complex in the world.”

Throughout the 1980s federal, state and local elected officials resisted the excessing of BARC

land. At that time disposal of surplus lands had been accomplished under President Ronald Reagan’s Executive Order 1238, dated February 25, 1982. This set up the Federal Property Review Board to screen available land for sale. The executive action was taken in the hope the sale proceeds would help reduce the federal deficit. (The board was later abolished, its functions taken over by the Office of Management and Budget.)

The pressure to stop the excessing of BARC land became intense in May 1987 when an auction date had been set for Parcel 5, a 13.6-acre tract north of the National Agricultural Library and bounded by U.S. Route 1, Sunnyside Avenue and Buchanan Road. Congressman Steny Hoyer intervened, the sale was postponed; and the tract, declared surplus in 1983, was later removed from the government’s surplus property list.

These repeated efforts to auction off BARC land for commercial purposes led to the action by Congress, in late 1987, to give the green light to a measure initiated by Hoyer in the House and by Senators Barbara Mikulski and Sarbanes in the Senate that

See **BARC HISTORY**, page 2

# Dr. Metts Dispute Is Crisis In County School Circles

by Mary Moien

On a daily basis the city and county, indeed the country, seem to be bombarded with news of the educational crisis in Prince George’s County. The Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Iris T. Metts, has been fired, reinstated, and is possibly looking for a new position. The State Superintendent of Schools, Nancy Grasmick, reversed the firing, surprising all when she said that only she has the authority to fire county superintendents. The school board members, who fired Metts, are still looking at their options for terminating her position.

Added to this pot are declining standardized test scores, which this year have affected most school districts throughout the state, not just Prince George’s County. However, the decline in test scores is one announced reason that the board sought to fire Metts. Another reason they cited was that she signed major contracts with organizations to run Head Start programs without board authorization.

## Emergency Legislation

At the same time, legislators in Annapolis are trying to pass a bill that will alter the structure of the county board of education, possibly resulting in the removal of some members and the appointment of some new members. The current board is entirely elected.

At this point the house has passed emergency legislation to set up an oversight panel with authority over major spending and personnel actions of the county school board. Neither of these proposals has yet been approved by the senate or signed by the governor.

## Local Response

Although most local politicians are angry and frustrated at the various actions of all involved, there is currently little they see that can be accomplished locally. In fact, Mayor Judith Davis indicated that the council members have varying opinions and would probably not be able to reach a consensus on what actions they would

See **DR. METTS**, page 5

## Metts to Address Lions at Legion

Prince George’s County School Superintendent Iris T. Metts will address the Greenbelt Lions Club at its meeting on Monday, February 25 at 7:15 p.m. The meeting will be held at the Greenbelt American Legion Post 136, 6900 Greenbelt Road. The public is invited to attend. For further information call 301-474-5156.

# ACE and Principals Meet To Review Current Status

by Mary Moien

The annual meeting of the Greenbelt Advisory Committee on Education (ACE) with local school principals was held on February 4. Principals and other senior staff were present from Greenbelt and Springhill Lake Elementary Schools, Greenbelt and Robert Goddard Middle Schools, and St. Hugh’s School. This meeting was an opportunity for the principals to discuss activities in their schools to bring issues and problems to the attention of the city.

## Greenbelt Middle

Three vice-principals - John LaPolla, Maria Bovich and Clifton Coates accompanied Principal Judy Austin, the new principal at Greenbelt Middle School. Austin was proud to announce that their school had done very well on the MSPAP tests. She then described two major needs at the school, tutors and driving assistance. Many students stay after

school for tutoring; however, there are no buses to take these students home. Transportation is a major obstacle to tutoring, she said. They would like volunteers who could drive students home in the afternoon.

Austin mentioned that students will be working with Professor James Dixon and interns from Bowie University, who will help students start their own businesses. In addition, the school is starting a stock market project in conjunction with the Washington Post. This project will help with math and reading.

ACE chair, Leta Mach, asked if school renovations had begun. LaPolla commented that it had looked like work was beginning as engineers and architects had come to the school. However, no one has come in several

See **ACE**, page 9

## What Goes On

**Monday, February 25, 8 p.m.,** Regular City Council Meeting, Municipal Building  
**Wednesday, February 27, 7:30 p.m.,** Advisory Planning Board Meeting, Community Center



# Letters to the Editor

## Blood Drive Success

The Blood Drive of February 15 at the Greenbelt Youth Center was a success. At least 56 people presented themselves to donate blood.

Thanks are given to the volunteers and the Red Cross personnel who performed in the usual courteous and professional manner.

The next blood drive, co-sponsored by the American Red Cross, the Greenbelt Recreation Department and the Springhill Lake Apartments, will be held on Friday at the Springhill Lake Recreation Center from noon to 6 p.m. Please note the change in location. Call Janet Goldberg at 301-397-2212 to make an appointment.

Janet Goldberg

## Memories

When I reached my 80th birthday on January 28, 2002, my children and grandchildren gave me a surprise party. They presented me with oral and written testimonies of what they remembered most about me.

Cam, my oldest child, wrote hers down and although I will always remember all the other nice things said about me, this one I have in print to be read over and over again and to be shared with others.

It brought back memories. I didn't realize how impressionable early childhood experiences can be.

Those were the days when Greenbelt mothers stayed home to care for their children. To do otherwise, made you ineligible to live in Greenbelt as it was first established in the late 1930s.

Ruth Morris

## I Remember Mom

This is about Mom "Being There" . . . I remember Mom during the summers when we lived at 7-K Research making us four little sweaty monsters take a nap every day after lunch. At that time propeller planes used to fly overhead, and to this day, whenever I hear the drone of a lone propeller plane (becoming increasingly rare), I think of naps on hot summer afternoons and Mom.

I remember Mom, after we again got hot and sweaty playing outside after our naps, making us take a bath before Dad came home and puffing us up with talcum powder. Then Mom could present Dad with his precious, sweet-smelling children who would wait for him, playing on the lawn, Marilyn and I twirling in our full skirts. I remember being attached, like a papoose, to Mom's back on the bed, trying to match my breathing to hers, so that we could both take a nap together.

I remember how frustrated Mom would get sewing Easter outfits for Marilyn and me because we had to keep trying them on . . . especially a bright blue taffeta jumper with a yellow gauzy blouse. That yellow blouse was directly related to why I got, and had to wear for the rest of the year, that yellow Easter hat that squeezed and pinched my head. At that time you always had to wear a hat to church.

I remember Mom saying one day that she was going to get a job, and me starting to cry because I wanted her to be home when I got home from school . . . and so she never got that job away from home. Thank you, Mom, for being there.

Cam

# Council Supports GHI's Tree Replacement Request

by Barbara Hopkins

Greenbelt City Council-members voted unanimously on February 11 to submit a letter supporting the application by the Board of Directors of Greenbelt Homes, Inc. (GHI) for a Neighborhood Improvement Grant from the Prince George's County Re-development Authority. If approved, the grant will give GHI \$20,000, which it must match with an equal amount, to remove 94 failing and, therefore, hazardous trees and plant 96 new trees. Bill Phelan, assistant director of Public Works, and the city's horticulturist, has reviewed and approved the plan but not the list of replacement tree species.

Gretchen Overdurff, GHI general manager, told council that tree stumps will not be removed, but will be cut as close to the ground as possible. Overdurff said some of the trees to be removed are in common areas; some are in yards. Where the site is not suitable, a replacement tree will not be replanted, but one will be planted as close as possible to the site of the original tree. GHI members who do not want a tree replaced in their yard will be able to make this request for consideration by GHI man-

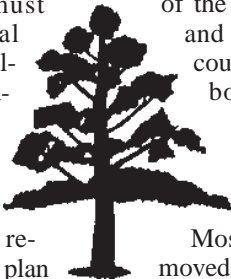
agement. Members will be given more information as it becomes available, if and when the grant is approved.

### Trees Tagged

Trees to be removed have been tagged with yellow tape so that citizens can see which trees will be taken down. The project must be completed within a year of the date of grant approval; and in a letter to the city council, Overdurff said the board intends to plant new trees in the fall within as short a time as possible after the old trees are removed.

Most of the trees to be removed are crab apples. Suggested replacement trees include various cultivars of dogwood, magnolias, serviceberries, hawthornes, red maples, and others. Final selection of replacement trees will not be made until GHI is assured of the grant. Then staff will contact nurseries to determine what is available.

Councilmember Alan Turnbull said he would like to see more enthusiasm in the letter to reflect the community's history as a "tree community." As submitted, the letter is simple and direct. Turnbull also applauded GHI for going for the grant.



## BARC SALE

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BARC is the premier agricultural research center in the world and obviously an important green space in one of the country's most densely populated corridors."

An earlier effort to sell and auction parts of BARC was made during the Reagan Administration. At that time the move was blocked by Hoyer.

Hoyer also noted that the President's budget included \$4.1 million for the so-called Renaissance program for fiscal year 2003. He said he will work hard to secure more funding. This ongoing program began in late 1988 when the Congress approved an appropriation of \$14 million for rejuvenating and upgrading BARC's aged structures and providing state-of-the-art research equipment for the laboratories.

USDA's first research activity in Beltsville began in 1910 in a dairy barn. Gradual expansion of the research program followed in 1935 several of the large buildings of Georgian architecture were constructed. In a land swap between the Department of Defense and USDA around the time of World War II, all plant science programs moved from Virginia to Beltsville. (The Defense Department wanted the Virginia land in order to build the Pentagon.)

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### The Old Curmudgeon

"I deserve the gold medal for the triple klutz!"

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## BARC HISTORY

continued from page 1

prohibited disposal of any BARC property without prior consent from Congress.

Among the arguments raised to keep private interests from buying Parcel 5 was the fact that the tract would satisfy potential federal needs to consolidate Agriculture's offices, which were scattered throughout the Maryland, Virginia and Washington, D.C. area. (At the time, land clearing had begun for the USDA headquarters complex on Sunnyside Avenue between the railroad tracks and Tucker Road, a tract just east of Parcel 5.)

## OLD GREENBELT THEATRE

Week of Feb. 22

Gosford Park (R)

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Saturday  
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Sunday  
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Monday - Thursday  
7:30

\*These shows at \$4.00

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# Greenbelt News Review

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

15 Crescent Road, Suite 100, Greenbelt, Maryland 20770-1887  
newsreview@greenbelt.com  
301-474-4131 • FAX 301-474-5880

Alfred M. Skolnik, President, 1959-1977  
Elaine Skolnik, President, 1977-1985  
President Emeritus, 1985-

Editor: Mary Lou Williamson 301-441-2662  
Assistant Editor: Barbara Likowski 301-474-8483  
News Editor: Elaine Skolnik 301-598-1805

STAFF

Hopi Auerbach, Suzanne Batra, Virginia Beauchamp, Laura Beckert, Judy Bell, Margaret Benjamin, Judi Bordeaux, Sharon Carroll, Sue Curtis, Pat Davis, Thelma deMola, Eileen Farnham, Thomas Fishbeck, Bob Garber, Al Geiger, Bernina Giese, James Giese, Judy Goldstein, Eve Gresser, Patty Heil, Sabine Hentrich, Solange Hess, Barbara Hopkins, Elizabeth Jay, Dennis Jelalian, Tom Jones, Julia Kender, Suzanne Krofchik, Meta Lagerwerff, Pam Lambird, Sandra Lange, Betsy Likowski, Maria del Mar Lopez, Marilyn Low, Lucie Mac Kinnon, Pat McCoy, Cathy Meetre, Emma Mendoza, Mary Moien, Marat Moore, John Mortenson, Alice Murray, Nick Mydra, Diane Oberg, Millie O'Dea, I.J. Parker, Linda Paul, Leonie Penney, Eileen Peterson, Carol Ready, Jane Rissler, Altoria Bell Ross, Sandra Surber Smith, Barbara Starbird, Dorothy Sucher, Helen Sydavar, Joanne Tucker, David Wallace, Marbury Wethered, Barbara Young, Virginia Zanner, and Keith Zevallos.

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James Giese, president; Eileen Farnham, vice president; Diane Oberg, treasurer; Mary Moien, secretary; Virginia Beauchamp, Barbara Hopkins, and Judy Bell.

DEADLINES: Letters, articles and ads—10 p.m. Tuesday. Materials for publication may be mailed to address above, deposited in our box in the Co-op grocery store (by 7 p.m. Tuesday) or brought to our office in the Community Center 15 Crescent Road during office hours. Mail subscriptions—\$32/year.

Greenbelt Community Center at 15 Crescent Rd.  
OFFICE HOURS: Monday 2 - 4 p.m., Tuesday 2 - 4, 8 - 10 p.m.







# Obituaries

## Earl Carlton Tatum

Earl Carlton Tatum, 80, of Laurel Hill Road, died of heart failure on Wednesday, February 13, 2002 in Doctors Hospital. Mr. Tatum was born in Baltimore on July 31, 1921 to the late Errol Carlton and Catherine Tatum.

He served in the 12th Army Air Corp. during World War II in the North African and Italian Theaters. After the war he worked for the Board of Veterans Appeals as a statistical clerk. He retired in June 1979. He was a long time member of Holy Cross Lutheran Church in Greenbelt, where he served through the years in numerous positions.

He is survived by his wife Joan of over 56 years, of the home address, a daughter Nancy of Greenbelt; a son Richard and his wife Marion of Salisbury Md; grandsons Donald and Dennis Freundt of California; grand-daughter Kimberly Brinson of Salisbury; grandson John Tatum, Salisbury; great-granddaughters Molly Jean and Madeline Mackinzie Freundt of California, and great-grandson Noah Michael Brinson of Salisbury.

A memorial service will be held at a later date at Holy Cross Lutheran Church. Memorial contributions may be made to Holy Cross Lutheran Church, 6905 Greenbelt Rd., Greenbelt, MD, 20770.

## Nursery School Holds Open House

Mishkan Torah Nursery School will hold an open house on Sunday, February 24, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Families are invited for fun and refreshments, and to learn about the program. Registration for the 2002-2003 school year is now in progress for two, three, and four-year olds.

The curriculum encourages emotional, social, cognitive, and physical development, creativity and positive self-esteem. The program includes art, music, stories, dance, drama, science and nature, food experiences, and nutritious snacks. Jewish holidays are celebrated with song, food, and dance. Children of all backgrounds are welcome and their diversity respected. Lunch Bunch is available.

The synagogue's Purim Carnival will be held on Sunday, February 24, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Come and enjoy both events. People may also call and stop by on a school day.

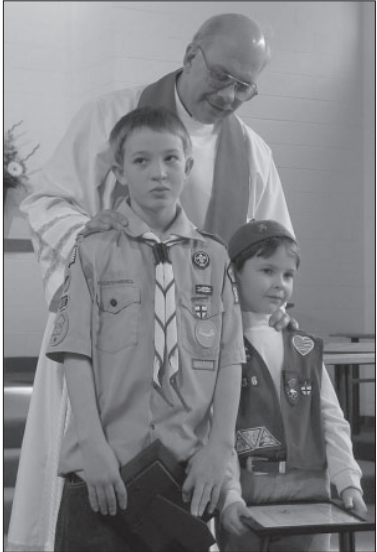
Mishkan Torah Nursery School is accredited by the Maryland State Board of Education and is located at 10 Ridge Road. For information, call 301-474-4224 or 301-277-8615.

## IRS Gives Free Tax Assistance

IRS taxpayer assistance offices in Maryland are open weekdays 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. except Wednesdays when most open at 8:30 a.m. Saturday, April 13 hours are 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. and Monday, April 15 from 8 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.

The two nearest offices are at Metro-Plex 1, Room 300, 8401 Corporate Drive in Landover and 11510 Georgia Ave., Lower Level, in Wheaton. Hours at those locations also include Tuesdays and Thursdays from 7:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.

# A Scout Is Reverent



February 17 was Scouting Sunday at Holy Cross Lutheran Church. Shown are Matthew Burt, 11, who earned the God and Family merit badge, and Anna Ray, 6, awarded the God and Me merit badge, standing in front of Pastor Stephen Mentz. Each scout's father, also in full scouting uniform, pinned the badge on the honoree's uniform.

## Transportation Plan Subject of Meeting

On Tuesday, February 26, the Prince George's County Black Chamber of Commerce and the Citizens Advisory Committee of the National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board will host a meeting to discuss how land use and transportation should be linked in Prince George's County's new "General Plan." The meeting will explore ways to make the concept of "activity centers," places where jobs, housing, services and recreation are synthesized into a walkable environment, a reality.

The meeting will be held from 7 to 9 p.m. at Prince George's Metro Center, 6525 Belcrest Road, Suite 290, in Hyattsville. Among the featured speakers will be Peter Shapiro, Prince George's County Council chair and vice chair of the region's Transportation Planning Board; Al Dobbins, division chief, community planning, Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC); and Nick Motta, division chief, countywide planning, M-NCPPC.

Call John Swanson at the Transportation Planning Board, at 202-962-3295 for information.



Our sympathy to Joan Tatum and family on the death of her husband, Earl Carlton.

Condolences to Spomenka Gajic of Greenbrook Drive on the death from cancer of her husband, Srcan Osmanajic. He enjoyed playing tennis in Greenbelt.

Condolences also to John Unger of Lakeside Drive and family on the death of John's father, Hilbert Unger.

Congratulations to Kateri Hull who was included on the Dean's List of outstanding students at the University of Maryland, College Park. A graduate of Eleanor Roosevelt High School, Kateri is the current Miss Greenbelt.

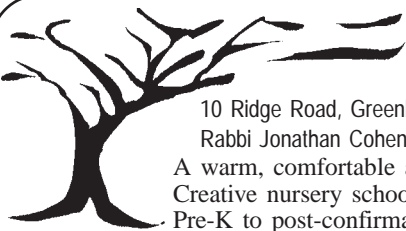
## Baha'i Faith

"O Son of Man! The temple of being is My throne; cleanse it of all things, that there I may be established and there I may abide."  
-Baha'i Sacred Writings

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Information about the Baha'i Faith is on the World Wide Web at <http://www.bahai.org/>

## Congregation Mishkan Torah



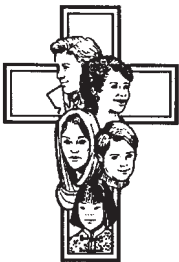
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# Holloway Takes on Jeopardy

by Mary Moien

How many high schools in the United States can claim to have had two Jeopardy winners in one year? Eleanor Roosevelt High School can. Last week, Bernard Holloway, a junior from Mitchellville, outplayed the other contestants and became the winner of the teen championship, including \$50,000 and a new convertible. Last fall, Venita Kailasanath won the college Jeopardy championship. She was valedictorian at ERHS for the class of 2000 and currently attends Stanford University.

Not only is Holloway a celebrity at Roosevelt; he is also the county's student representative to the Prince George's County

school board. As the student representative, he participates in discussions and is able to vote on topics not related to budget or personnel issues.

Holloway, a Science and Technology student, seemed relatively cool and calm as he appeared on several episodes of Jeopardy over a two-week period. He was selected from more than 1,000 teens who applied for a spot on the tournament.

It should be mentioned also, that last spring, ERHS won both the Washington area and Washington, Baltimore and Richmond superbowl competitions of "It's Academic."

## DR. METTS continued from page 1

like to see taken.

Speaking personally, Davis stated that anyone concerned about the schools must be exceedingly worried about the future.

She indicated further that Greenbelt needs a school board representative who is "responsive and responsible." Although the city council is non-partisan and cannot propose a particular candidate, she indicated that the city may need a new school board representative and if that person comes from Greenbelt, all the better. James Henderson of Seabrook is the city's current representative; his predecessor was Suzanne Plogman of Greenbelt.

### ACE Advice

On matters of education, the city council is advised by the Greenbelt Advisory Committee on Education (ACE). The chair, Leta Mach, reported that the committee has not yet put forth a recommendation regarding the Metts-school board affair. The next ACE meeting is February 26 and she expects this issue to be on the agenda.

Greenbelt City Councilmember Tom White stated that the "bottom line is the students" and creating a quality school system. Referring to the competition between the county school board, the State Superintendent of Schools, and Metts, he declared that all of these issues are a huge distraction to education. White was vehemently opposed, however, to the "interlopers in Annapolis" who proposed unilaterally changing the elected school board. "What does that say to any elected board?" he asked.

When asked if county voters could recall the elected school board, he indicated that the state of Maryland has no recall procedures. Some municipalities do, but not Greenbelt. In Greenbelt, voters can "recall" their elected officials every two years in an election. The school board can be recalled the same way.

### Dismay Expressed

Allen Elliott is the PTSA president at Eleanor Roosevelt

High School (ERHS) and a dedicated activist in support of education. He indicated that the PTSA board was not inclined to take a position in the ongoing dispute. He sensed dismay among many parents - a mix of anger, sadness and disappointment that grown-ups who encourage peer mediation and conflict resolution in the schools have been unable to reconcile their differences and work together for the good of the schools and the children.

Elliott, who has devoted hundreds of hours on PTSA activities, indicated his personal frustrations on all sides. He commented that Metts had many good ideas but did not have enough respect for the board to keep them informed. In turn, the board may have neglected their first responsibility, which is to the students. He added that the underfunding of the school system is another issue and the county may be holding the schools hostage to try to overturn TRIM.

Like the true parent and PTSA president, Elliott concluded his remarks by directing attention to the very positive outcomes that are overlooked in the "maelstrom," the many outstanding accomplishments of ERHS students - including two Jeopardy winners and the It's Academic superbowl championship, all in one year.

### SPRINGHILL LAKE

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# City Information

## CITY COUNCIL - REGULAR MEETING Municipal Building - Council Room February 25, 2002 - 8:00 p.m.

### COMMUNICATIONS

Petitions and Requests (*Petitions received at the meeting will not be acted upon by the City Council at this meeting unless Council waives its Standing Rules.*)

\*Report, Public Safety Advisory Committee, 2/18/02 (Emergency Preparedness Plan) (*Items on the Consent Agenda [marked by \*] will be approved as recommended by staff, subject to removal from the Consent Agenda by Council.*)

### LEGISLATION

An Ordinance to Repeal and Re-enact with Amendments Article VI, "Employee Appeals," of Chapter 13, "Personnel," of the Greenbelt City Code for the Purpose of Revising the Requirements and Procedures for Employee Appeals and Grievances (Deferral to Future Meeting)

A Resolution to Amend the Charter of the City of Greenbelt by Repealing and Re-Enacting with Amendments Employee Relations Board Section 12(d), Titled "Powers" for the Purpose of Clarifying the Procedures for Employee Appeals and Grievances (abbreviated title) (2<sup>nd</sup> Reading, Adoption)

A Resolution to Amend the Charter of the City of Greenbelt by Repealing and Re-Enacting with Amendments Section 36, Related to the City Manager, Titled "Same-Powers" for the Purpose of Clarifying the Procedures for Employee Appeals and Grievances (abbreviated title) (2<sup>nd</sup> Reading, Adoption)

An Ordinance to Amend Chapter 2, "Administration," Article II, "Financial Affairs," of the Greenbelt City Code for the Purpose of Updating the Balance to Be Maintained in the Temporary Disability Reserve Fund (1<sup>st</sup> Reading)

An Ordinance to Amend Chapter 10, "Licenses, Permits and Miscellaneous Business Regulations," of the Greenbelt City Code for the Purpose of Revising Requirements for the Installation, Operation and Permitting of Burglar and Hold-up Alarm Systems, and to Add Requirements for the Regulation and Licensing of Burglar Alarm Companies Transacting Business in the City (1<sup>st</sup> Reading)

### OTHER BUSINESS

- Petition for Pedestrian Crossing and Eastbound Sidewalk at Greenbelt Rd. & Southway
- Injunctions/Restraining Orders - Request for City Solicitor's Opinion
- Sale of Items Used as Drug Paraphernalia - Request for City Solicitor's Opinion
- Pending State Legislation
- \*Reappointment to Advisory Group
- \*Resignation from Advisory Group

NOTE: This is a preliminary agenda, subject to change. Regular Council meetings are open to the public, and all interested citizens are invited to attend. For information, please call 301-474-3870. If special accommodations are required to make this meeting accessible to any disabled person, please call 301-474-8000 or 301-474-2046 (TTY) to request such accommodation before 10:00 a.m. on the day of the meeting.

## GREENBELT MUNICIPAL/PUBLIC ACCESS CHANNEL 71



**Municipal Access 301-474-8000:** Monday, February 25 at 8pm-City Council Meeting "live." Tuesday and Thursday, 2/26 & 2/28: 6pm The Spirit of Cooperation; 7pm Which Playground for Your Child?; 7:30pm Replay of City Council Meeting  
**Public Access 301-507-6581:** Wednesday and Friday, 2/27 & 3/01: 7pm Democratic Club Meeting 1/02; 7:30pm Public Safety; 8pm The Alexandria Kleztet

## ARTS CLASSES & WORKSHOP OFFERED IN MARCH

Two courses and a workshop will be offered by the City of Greenbelt, Department of Recreation beginning in March, 2002. All classes will take place at the Greenbelt Community Center located at 15 Crescent Road and are open to teens and adults age 16 and up.

Stained glass artists can continue their work or create new pieces in a six week open studio that will begin on Saturday 3/2/02, from 3:00 - 6:00 p.m. Betty Broderick will be monitoring the studio and will be on hand to assist participants with their techniques.

Oriental brush painting will be taught by Grace Park Monday evenings from 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. beginning 3/4/02. Participants will use authentic materials, and learn to paint flowers, bamboo, and sign their name in Korean

A one day workshop titled "Thinking Out of Round; Handbuilding with Anne Fournier" will be held on Saturday, March 2 from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The course will focus on simple and complex hand built forms using colored clays, slabs, coils and drape molds.

Registration is required for each of these activities, and fees apply. Participants are strongly encouraged to register at the Community Center prior to the first day of class. Please contact the Greenbelt Community Center at (301)397-2208 for further information.

### Advisory Planning Board

Wednesday, February 27, 2002  
**7:30 PM**  
Greenbelt Community Center  
**Adult Art Room (1<sup>st</sup> floor)**  
**AGENDA ITEMS:**  
■ Detailed Site Plan – CVS at Greenway Shopping Center  
■ ACT Report on Management Plan for Bradford Pear Trees

## REGISTRATION FOR MEN'S SPRING SOFTBALL, AND ADULT SPRING COED SOCCER

Registration for the Recreation Department's Spring leagues is now underway. The deadline for Men's Softball is March 22nd and the deadline for Coed Soccer is Friday, March 1st. Registration forms are available at the Business Office at 99 Centerway. Info: 301-397-2200



**FEBRUARY-MARCH 2002**

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
	25	26	27	28	1	2
3						

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


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FRESH QUALITY MEATS	
U.S.D.A. Choice Beef Boneless Sirloin Steak	<b>\$2<sup>99</sup></b> lb.
Fresh Wampler Whole Frying Chicken	<b>89¢</b> lb.
Fresh Lean Pork Boneless Loin Chops	<b>\$2<sup>99</sup></b> 1 lb.
Fresh 86% Super Lean Ground Beef Round	<b>\$1<sup>89</sup></b> lb.
U.S.D.A. Choice Beef Boneless Top Round London Broil	<b>\$2<sup>59</sup></b> lb.
Shady Brook Turkey Italian Sausage	<b>\$1<sup>99</sup></b> lb.
Butterball Turkey Bacon	<b>\$1<sup>39</sup></b> 6 oz.
Oscar Mayer Big & Juicy Meat Franks	<b>\$1<sup>99</sup></b> 16 oz.
Gwaltney Sausage	<b>99¢</b> 16 oz.
El Monterey Burritos-or-Chimichangas Asst. Varieties	<b>\$2<sup>99</sup></b> 40 oz.
Hillshire Deli Select Lunch Meats	<b>\$1<sup>69</sup></b> 6 oz.

DAIRY	DELI
Land-O-Lakes American Singles	Oven Roasted Turkey Breast
<b>\$1<sup>89</sup></b> 12 oz.	<b>\$3<sup>99</sup></b> lb.
Shedd's Soft Vegetable Spread	Virginia Baked Ham
<b>79¢</b> 1 lb.	<b>\$4<sup>99</sup></b> lb.
Pillsbury Grand Biscuits	New York Muenster Cheese
<b>99¢</b> 16-17 oz.	<b>\$3<sup>89</sup></b> lb.
Reddi Wip Dessert Toppings	Wintergarden's Amish Coleslaw
<b>\$2<sup>99</sup></b> 14 oz.	<b>\$1<sup>29</sup></b> 1 lb.

HOT FOODS DELI	SEAFOOD
Delicious Dinner-Of-The-Day	Fresh Salmon Fillets
<b>\$4<sup>49</sup></b> Each	<b>\$3<sup>99</sup></b> lb.
<b>BAKERY</b>	Viking Breaded Flounder Fillets
Homestyle Crostatas	<b>\$3<sup>99</sup></b> 16 oz.
<b>\$4<sup>99</sup></b> 15-21 oz.	Frozen Pollock Fillets
	<b>\$3<sup>69</sup></b> 2 lbs.

GROCERY BARGAINS	
3 Diamond Chunk Light Tuna	<b>49¢</b> 6 oz.
Smucker's Grape Jelly	<b>\$1<sup>29</sup></b> 32 oz.
Lucky Leaf Apple Sauce	<b>\$1<sup>49</sup></b> 46-48 oz.
Libby's Sweet Corn-Green Beans-Sweet Peas	<b>49¢</b> 15 oz.
Carrington Tea Bags Gourmet-Healthy	<b>\$1<sup>39</sup></b> 20 Pk.
Sue Bee Honey	<b>\$1<sup>49</sup></b> 12 oz.
Maier's Premium Bread 10 Grain-Oat & Honey-Wheat & Honey	<b>\$1<sup>49</sup></b> 24 oz. Loaf
Knorr Original Vegetable Soup & Dip Mix	<b>99¢</b> 1.4 oz.
Nabisco Nilla Wafers	<b>\$2<sup>39</sup></b> 11-12 oz.
Huggies Jumbo Pack Diapers Pull-Ups-Supreme-Ultra	<b>\$11<sup>49</sup></b> 15-68 Pk.
Tulip Pink Salmon	<b>\$1<sup>39</sup></b> 14.75 oz.
Marcal Napkins	<b>89¢</b> 120 Pk.
<b>PATRON APPRECIATION DISCOUNT DAY</b> <b>WEDNESDAY February 27th</b> 5% Discount To All Customers On All Purchases Except stamps, Metro Fares, & Prepaid Phone Cards	
Best Yet Tomato Sauce	<b>19¢</b> 8 oz.
Ragu Spaghetti Sauce Asst. Varieties	<b>\$1<sup>29</sup></b> 26 oz.
Kellogg's Original Rice Krispies Cereal	<b>\$2<sup>59</sup></b> 19 oz.
Maxwell House Valu Size Master Blend Ground Coffee	<b>\$3<sup>99</sup></b> 34.5 oz.
Nabisco Ritz Crackers Original-Wheat-Low Fat-Low Salt	<b>\$2<sup>39</sup></b> 14-16 oz.
Formula 409 Trigger Spray Cleaners Asst. Varieties	<b>\$1<sup>99</sup></b> 32 oz.
Lysol Disinfectant Spray Asst. Varieties	<b>\$2<sup>99</sup></b> 12 oz.
Tide Extra Value Size Liquid Laundry Detergent	<b>\$10<sup>99</sup></b> 150 oz.
Kellogg's Pop Tart Pastry Swirls Asst. Varieties	<b>\$1<sup>39</sup></b> 5 Pack
Marquee Hydrogen Peroxide	<b>99¢</b> 32 oz.
Marquee Rubbing Alcohol	<b>99¢</b> 32 oz.
<b>HOUSEWARES</b>	
Fruit-Of-The-Loom Sweatshirts Asst. Sizes & Colors	<b>\$3<sup>99</sup></b> Each
Fuji Colors Quicksnap Disposable Flash Camera	<b>\$6<sup>99</sup></b> 25 Exposure
Sunsweet Pitted Prunes Original-Double Stuf	<b>\$1<sup>29</sup></b> 12 oz.
Spice Classic Ground Cinnamon-Black Pepper-Chopped Onion	<b>59¢</b> 2-6 oz.

FARM FRESH PRODUCE	
Fresh Tender Asparagus	<b>\$1<sup>99</sup></b> lb.
Sweet Ripe Florida Strawberries	<b>\$1<sup>99</sup></b> lb.
Noreast Fresh Spinach	<b>\$1<sup>49</sup></b> 10 oz. bag
Red-or-White Seedless Grapes	<b>99¢</b> lb.
Fresh Crisp Romaine Lettuce	<b>\$1<sup>19</sup></b> lb.
Washington State Red Delicious Apples	<b>69¢</b> lb.
Nature's Finest Celery	<b>99¢</b> Bunch
Juicy Limes	<b>4/99¢</b>
Red Ripe Plum Tomatoes	<b>79¢</b> lb.
Hass Avocados	<b>99¢</b> Each
Green Cabbage	<b>39¢</b> lb.

FROZEN FOOD	BEER & WINE
Van De Kamp Value Pack Fish Portions-or-Sticks	Wild Goose Beer
<b>\$2<sup>49</sup></b> 25-26 oz.	<b>\$5<sup>99</sup></b> 6 Pack-12 oz. N.R.'s
Lender's Bagels All Varieties	Inglonook Wines
<b>79¢</b> 9-15 oz.	<b>\$7<sup>99</sup></b> 3 Liter
Hanover Lima Beans-Brussel Sprouts-Baby Whole Carrots Broccoli Florets	National Bohemian Beer
<b>\$1<sup>19</sup></b> 16 oz.	<b>\$2<sup>59</sup></b> 6 Pack-12 oz. Cans
Aunt Jemima Waffles-Pancakes-French Toast	Du Boef Wines
<b>\$1<sup>19</sup></b> 12-20 oz.	<b>\$6<sup>99</sup></b> Cuvee Red & White 1.5 Liter
Armour Original Chili With Beans	
<b>69¢</b> 15 oz.	
Nabisco Oreo Cookies Original-Double Stuf	
<b>\$2<sup>49</sup></b> 18-20 oz.	

NATURALS	PROFESSIONAL PHARMACY
Ecover Ultra Natural Laundry Wash	EPIC PHARMACY
<b>\$3<sup>49</sup></b> 33.8 oz.	• Courteous Professional Staff
Mountain Sun Organic Clear Apple Juice	• We Proudly Accept Most Prescription Plans
<b>\$3<sup>49</sup></b> 64 oz.	• Free Home Delivery Of Prescriptions Mon.-Wed.-Fri.
	• Free Blood Pressure Tester

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# POLICE BLOTTER

Based on information released by the Greenbelt Police Department.  
Dates and times are those when police were first contacted about incidents.

## Burglary

5800 block Cherrywood Lane, February 11, 12:14 p.m., a woman was sleeping in her bedroom when she awoke after hearing voices in the apartment. Walking out to her living room, she saw a man and a woman inside. She then ran back to her bedroom climbed out a window and contacted police. The suspects fled. They are described as a black male, 6'1", 140 lbs., with a dark complexion and wearing a hat, glasses, all black clothing, and a backpack; and a black female, 5'6", 110 lbs., light complexion, wearing a hat and all black clothing.

6500 block Lake Park Drive, February 9, 8:31 p.m., unknown means were used to enter a residence, where money and credit cards were taken.

Greenway Shopping Center, February 12, 6:05 a.m., someone broke out the front glass door of the Radio Shack. Entry was not gained.

Roosevelt Center, February 9, 2:13 p.m., unknown means were used to enter Pleasant Touch Spa. Money was taken.

## Armed Robbery

Greenway Shopping Center, February 12, 3 p.m., a man and a woman entered Radio Shack. The woman tried to distract the store manager while the male suspect concealed merchandise under his jacket. The manager tried to lock the suspects inside the store, at which time the man punched the manager several times, implying that he had a weapon. Both suspects then fled in a cab. Investigation revealed that the cab took the suspects to the 5800 block of Annapolis Road, where the woman was positively identified by witnesses. She was released to the Department of Corrections for a hearing before a District Court Commissioner. The male suspect subsequently turned himself in, and both suspects were charged with armed robbery and theft. The male suspect is a 31-year-old resident of northeast Washington. He was released to the Department of Corrections for a hearing before a District Court Commissioner.

## Assault

6000 block Springhill Drive, February 10, 2 a.m., a resident was arrested and charged with assault after allegedly punching and choking his girl friend. He was released to the Department of Corrections for a hearing before a District Court Commissioner.

## Handgun

6700 Kenilworth Avenue, February 9, 11:24 p.m., a resident of northeast Washington, 30, was arrested and charged with transporting a handgun after police made a traffic stop and found a loaded .45 caliber semiautomatic handgun in the vehicle. The suspect was released to the Department of Corrections for a hearing before a District Court Commissioner.

## Theft

6600 block Lake Park Drive, February 14, 12 p.m., an untended laptop computer was taken from a parking lot.

## Disorderly Conduct

Beltway Plaza, February 10, 1:09 a.m., a 16-year-old Largo resident and a 14-year-old Mitchellville resident were arrested after they began shouting profanities, causing a crowd to form, at the AMC theatres. They were released to guardians pending action by the juvenile justice system.

9200 block Springhill Lane, February 8, 4:40 p.m., a 16-year-old Greenbelt resident was throwing a ball across a crowded sidewalk to another youth, almost striking several citizens. When a police officer told him to stop, the youth became disorderly, yelling profanities and causing a crowd to gather. He was released to a guardian pending action by the juvenile justice system.

## Drug-related Arrests

6400 block Ivy Lane, area of Greenbelt Road and Branchville Road, and 7600 block of Mandan Road, two non-residents were charged with possession of drug paraphernalia and one non-resident was charged with possession of marijuana after traffic stops. The two with paraphernalia charges were released on citation pending trial; the resident charged with possession was released to the Department of Corrections for a hearing before a District Court Commissioner.

9300 block Edmonston Road, February 10, 7:48 p.m., an 18-year-old resident of the 6100 block of Springhill Court was arrested and charged with possession of paraphernalia. He was released on citation pending trial.

7700 block Hanover Parkway, February 12, 11:24 a.m., a 17-year-old Greenbelt resident was arrested for possession of paraphernalia, and a 16-year-old Lanham resident was arrested for possession of marijuana. A School Resource officer had responded to a report of truants. He observed the 16-year-old holding a marijuana cigarette and found the 17-year-old to be in possession of paraphernalia. Both young people were released to parents pending action by the juvenile justice system.

Area of Greenbelt Road and Kenilworth Avenue, after a traffic stop was made, a resident of northeast Washington, 18, was charged with possession of heroin, possession of crack cocaine with intent to distribute, driving under the influence, and several traffic violations. An officer saw the suspect driving erratically, followed him and saw him toss a plastic baggy out of the vehicle before being pulled over. The baggy contained suspected drugs. The suspect was released to the Department of Corrections for a hearing before a District Court Commissioner.

## Possession of Alcohol

Area of Greenbelt Road and

Kenilworth Avenue, February 8, 8:48 p.m., after a traffic stop, a 17-year old resident was arrested and charged with possession of alcohol by a minor, a passenger being found to be in possession of two beers. The resident was released to a parent pending action by the juvenile justice system.

## Trespassing

T.G.I. Friday restaurant, February 8, 10:27 p.m., a Capitol Heights resident, 20, was told to leave the restaurant for violating restaurant policy. He refused and was arrested before being released on citation pending trial.

T.G.I. Friday restaurant, February 9, 12:41 a.m., an Oxon Hill resident, 33, and a Suitland resident, 32, were told to leave the restaurant after becoming engaged in a verbal argument with other customers. They refused and were arrested before being released on citation pending trial.

## Traffic Crimes

The following vehicles were reported stolen: a green 1993 Honda Accord four-door, Md. tags UM2048, February 9 from the 7900 block Mandan Road; 5800 block Cherrywood Lane, a 1999 Plymouth Neon two-door, February 13, an officer tried unsuccessfully to stop the vehicle, thereafter following it to Riverdale Road, at which time two young men got out of the vehicle and tried to flee on foot. A short time later one of the young men was stopped by a Riverdale Park officer and positively identified as the driver of the vehicle. He was released to a parent pending action by the juvenile justice system; the other young suspect is described as a black male wearing grey sweat pants, a dark coat and black ski cap.

7200 block Hanover Drive, a 52-year-old Capitol Heights resident was arrested after an officer stopped the vehicle and a computer check revealed the license tags had been stolen. He was released to the Department of Corrections for a hearing before a District Court Commissioner.

Five stolen vehicles were recovered; no arrests were involved.

Vandalism to, thefts from, and attempted thefts of vehicles were reported in the following areas: 400 block Ridge Road; 7400 block Greenbelt Road; unit block Lakeside Drive; 6100 block Breezewood Drive; 6100 block Breezewood Court (two incidents); 7900 block Kara Court; 7200 block Hanover Drive; 5800 block Cherrywood Terrace; 100 block Westway (three incidents); 8400 block Canning Terrace.

## Five Towns Pledge Mutual Police Aid

A mutual police aid agreement was signed on February 20 by the Bladensburg, Greenbelt, Hyattsville, Mt. Rainier and Riverdale Park police departments.

The first such document in Prince George's County, the agreement allows participants to request assistance from one another. Officers will have authority to take police action within another agency's jurisdiction exclusive of routine patrol. It allows for short-term, medium-term and long-term assistance for expected as well as planned events.



PHOTO BY ANDY CARRUTHERS

The Lady Raider Step Squad of Eleanor Roosevelt High School won third place in the National Step Team Competition, StepFest 2002, for high school teams held in Baltimore on February 15. The girls team coach is Chanelle Williams, a science teacher at ERHS. Step shows are a time-honored African-American tradition, with each team presenting a highly synchronized display of stomping, slapping, clapping, whooping and rhyming designed to show esprit de corps, creativity, clever choreography and a lot of zany theater.

## Greenbelt Youth Honored For Community Service

Today at FedEx Field in Landover hundreds of area youth, including Greenbelters, were recognized for their hard work, dedication and community spirit at the second annual Redskins All-Stars Award Ceremony. Redskins players, along with Redskins cheerleaders, joined the Washington Redskins Leadership Council to present 11 winning youth organizations with over \$50,000 in grants.

Receiving \$2,500 as a fourth place winner, the BUILDING Mentoring Program of Greenbelt restored the outdoor basketball court and the entire playground at Springhill Lake Recreation Center. The group members, under the leadership of Brian Butler, removed 60 bags of leaves, repainted the backboards, changed the rims and bought new nets. They also painted the BUILDING Mentoring Program logo on the court. With the earned prize money, the youth hope to add lights to the newly refurbished basketball court.

The Redskins All-Stars program is designed to recognize and encourage community service, dedication and teamwork among area youth. Groups of children in Maryland, Virginia and the District of Columbia, between the ages of 5 and 18 years, were eligible to participate with

the assistance of youth leaders, teachers, coaches or parents. This year over 25,000 youth from 200 organizations including schools, Boys and Girls clubs and Boy and Girl Scout troops, registered to participate in the 2001 Redskins All-Stars program.

To encourage these community service projects, the Washington Redskins Leadership Council provided each registered group with a \$100 voucher good at participating Home Depot locations in Maryland, Virginia and the District of Columbia to help defray the costs of project related expenses such as paint, trash bags and building supplies. Grants were awarded to organizations whose community projects demonstrated creativity, uniqueness and a strong sense of community pride.

The Redskins All-Stars program is an initiative of the Washington Redskins Leadership Council, a Redskins charity, which combines the influence and popularity of the Washington Redskins with the resources and assets of 40 Washington area corporations. The Council consists of 40 CEOs who help shape and define the philanthropic efforts of the Redskins to achieve a significant impact on communities throughout the region.

## More Auto Thefts Cited In Parts of Greenbelt

In a recent report on auto theft from June to November, 2001 prepared by Police Chief James Craze, an increase of 52 percent was noted over the previous year. Auto thefts for five years from 1997 to 2001 increased 119 percent from 199 to 435.

Craze cited the detailed analysis of police Sergeant Carl Schinner, which finds that most cars are stolen from the area west of Kenilworth Avenue, that the Honda Accord is the most popular target, that Chrysler vehicles are the most easily stolen, and that most vehicles are stolen from Thursday through Sunday nights.

In addition, Sergeant Schinner finds, the most frequently stolen Chrysler product in Greenbelt is the Dodge Neon. Second in popularity to Chrysler products are GM products, such as the Chevrolet Caprice, and older Buicks, Oldsmobiles and

Pontiacs.

Springhill Lake sustained 112 auto thefts from June to November, while Beltway Plaza suffered 21 during the same time period.

Shinner states that Mandan Road in Greenbelt East is an auto theft hot spot, suffering 28 vehicle thefts during the reporting period. There were 13 car thefts on Hanover Parkway and 19 in other parts of Greenbelt East.

Calling auto theft "an epidemic" in the county, Chief Craze noted that Laurel and Hyattsville as well as Greenbelt are experiencing increases. He also noted that auto theft suspects do not receive much punishment in court, and that "fleeing and eluding" police is a misdemeanor, not a felony, in Maryland.

Craze also said the department is preparing a special plan to deal with the increased auto thefts.

The Department is offering a reward of up to \$500 for information leading to the arrest and conviction of a suspect in any of the unsolved crimes reported in the blotter. Citizens may anonymously report suspected drug activity by calling the Drug Tip Line at 301-507-6522. Victims of the theft of lawn ornaments, tools, lawn mowers, etc., should contact Criminal Investigations at 301-507-6530. Some items have been recovered and police would like to return them to owners.



## Student Awards At St. Hugh's

by Leslie Hilliard

As a fitting conclusion to Catholic Schools Week, students at St. Hugh's School were recognized for their academic achievements at an "Honors Award" presentation. Students in grades five through eight who maintain grades of A or B are eligible for the award. In addition to academic achievement, the "Honor Award" also encompasses attributes of respect, spirituality and responsibility.

Students achieving "First Honors" must maintain an A in every subject except one, where a B is permissible. Eighteen students received the distinction of "First Honors." They are: Fifth Grade: Wesley Hilliard, Anne Lemieux, Eric Meyer, Robert Rudd, Megan Shaffer and Nolan Soter; Sixth Grade: Laurence Fitzgerald, Edward Kim, Eleanor Lomax, Greg Meyer, Peter Morrison, and Nicholas Viktor; Seventh Grade: Jeffrey Grant, Harrison Hilliard, Alice Yoo; Eighth Grade: Marie Crenwelge, Marvin Gunawan, and Aubrey Schiavone.

Students earning "Second Honors" must receive either an A or B in every core subject. Twenty-one students received the distinction of "Second Honors." They are: Fifth Grade: Nydia Bryan-Green, Erin Cocchiaro, Eric Didion, Elizabeth Hartzell, Sarah Layton, James Riordan, Aaron Viegas; Sixth Grade: Joseph Chung, Brian Crenwelge, Adam MacNaught, Mitchell Drew, Michael Holt, Jeffery Han, Jigesh Patel, and Nicholas Whelan; Seventh Grade: Andrew Perrin; Eighth Grade: Katherine Kimble, Sarah Loutsch, Caren Middaugh, Conor Real, Samantha Treacy.

## ACE continued from page 1

months now.

### Robt. Goddard Middle

Lori Taylor, vice principal of Goddard Middle School, described tutors from Goddard Space Flight Center who volunteer at the school. Their school is under transition as it is slated to become a French Immersion and Montessori school next year. The fate of the current staff is uncertain and Taylor indicated that the staff is being encouraged to apply for transfers.

LaPolla added that Greenbelt Middle will lose its French Immersion students to Goddard but will gain Greenbelt students who will transfer from Goddard. He feels the shift will not be traumatic as friends of many students in the Greenbelt East neighborhood already come to Greenbelt Middle.

### Greenbelt Elementary

Katherine Curl, principal at Greenbelt Elementary School, described their Outward Bound programs. Last year, multiculturalism was the focus and the year's highlight was the multicultural dinner attended by 700 to 800 people. This year the focus is on "math in the real world." The National Conference on Outward Bound is meeting in the area in March, she said, and some participants will visit the school. Mayor Judith Davis will be visiting the 4th grade to describe what it's like to be mayor.

The school has already lost about 90 students who moved to Landover schools last fall. Next fall, about 60 more who live on Capital View Drive will move to a neighborhood school. About 150 Greenbelters who currently go to Magnolia Elementary School will transfer to Greenbelt Elementary.

Curl commented that there is now a pre-kindergarten class affiliated with Greenbelt Elementary but physically located in Greenbriar.

tary but physically located in Greenbriar.

### Springhill Lake

Principal Linda Sherwood was accompanied by vice principal Mary Stephenson. Sherwood began by stating that their MSPAP scores were the worst they have ever been. She does not know what happened, as the teachers are very supportive of the program and students from Maryland help tutor the children. Stephenson commented that the school is very crowded, the majority of students do not speak English, and the student population is very transient. The turnover rate is 60 percent a year.

Looking over records, they calculated that in one third grade class, only 8 of 130 students had been in the school since kindergarten. It is possible that the school will be given a "reform model" project to try to improve the test scores, but the school has heard nothing to date.

Springhill Lake will be losing students who will transfer to neighborhood schools in the fall. Then the sixth graders who were moved to Greenbelt Middle School several years ago to alleviate overcrowding will come back to the Springhill Lake Elementary School. They expect to have the same overall number of students next year.

With the exception of the special education students and a few students who may go to the newly re-opened Berwyn Elementary, all students will be able to walk to school in the fall. Springhill Lake Elementary also has a pre-kindergarten this year that is located in a building about a block from the school.

### St. Hugh's

Liz Whelan, principal at St. Hugh's School, reported that a boiler in the school recently blew up, causing some classes to be

## Flowers in February

by Jacqueline Miller Byrd

Winter weather 2002 in Greenbelt has been unusual. Snowfall has been



PHOTO BY COLIN BYRD

minimal, yet snow showers fell with 44 miles per hour wind gusts this winter. Limited rainfall has caused drought-like conditions. Within one winter season, temperatures have ranged from a low 17 degrees to a high 76 degrees Fahrenheit. Despite the weather, Greenbelt is still green on many roadside areas, with colorful splashes of flowers scattered throughout the landscape.

Greenbelt shoppers sought President's Day holiday (February 18) sales under blue skies of 49

degrees and filtered sunshine. Bright yellow and purple pansies

bloom in Greenbelt East at the GreenSpring and Greenbriar entrances off Hanover Parkway.

According to some weather forecasters, "The groundhog saw his shadow on February 2." Superstition has it that Greenbelters can still expect 27 more days of winter weather until March 20, the official first day of spring. Unusual winter weather will prompt a "News Review" updated report of changes to the landscape in Greenbelt, "As the World Turns," weather wise.

canceled. The school is in year eight of the 10 year plan for Middle States Accreditation. Two goals they are working on for the accreditation are integration of technology and improving reading and writing.

Whelan asked ACE for assistance in obtaining a gate to be installed in the driveway next to

their school. They are writing to the city with this request. Students have been in danger from several cars speeding through that driveway during recess including one involved in a police chase.

The ACE Educator Award program will be held on March 11. The ACE Student Award ceremony will be held on May 13.

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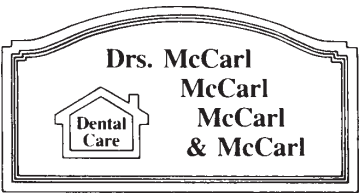
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# HISTORIC continued from page 1

quired for each type of property.

As written, the document is heavily weighted toward GHI concerns. Yet all owners of properties within the historic district would be required to request a Historic Area Work Permit (HAWP), administered by the county, to modify the exterior of their properties, whether they are historic or not. Owners of those properties within the historic district that are not of historic significance may seek to opt out of the district, but permission to opt out may be denied by the county.

Another concern, which several councilmembers shared with Craze, is that the larger community, those not in GHI, had not been sufficiently involved so far in the process. Mayor Judith Davis called for a public hearing on the topic, but Craze said that in its current form the document is too vague to be of much use to the public, and it should first be revised.

Conflicts between the regulations of the HPC and city code are also possible, Craze said. City code requires compliance within 30 days, but if a review by HPC is required, that could take 45 days.

### County Control

Of great concern, said Craze, is the fact that local historic designation would result in transfer of control over city-owned properties from the city to the county, which city officials have long felt does not always act in the city's best interests. Several current projects were reviewed by staff to determine if they would fall within the proposed guidelines. While existing structures would be "grandfathered in" when local historic designation took place, Craze cited the restrooms planned at Buddy Attick Park, perpendicular parking on Ridge Road, and city signs as projects that do

not conform to the proposed guidelines.

Craze also said of all the trees proposed by GHI to replace those they hope to remove, only one species on the list would be approved in Greenbelt's proposed local historic district.

The report also listed future projects that would be impacted, such as Public Works expansion, an observatory at Northway Fields, the skateboarding park, and others, as well as active traffic calming devices like speed bumps, rumble strips, or circles.

Because the city currently does not have zoning control over Greenbelt, the program must be administered through Prince George's County. If Greenbelt is successful in obtaining zoning control, then overlay control of the historic district would be included. In other municipalities nearby that have historic districts, such as Laurel, Takoma Park, and Annapolis, the city administers and oversees the historic district.

### Limit Designation

Since benefits of the designation fall primarily to GHI, staff would support pursuing designation with more limited boundaries to include GHI properties only. The report states that "this option would somewhat obviate the concerns that pursuit of local historic district would be contradictory with the city council's efforts to be removed from county zoning control." There would still be a need to prevent or resolve conflicts between the HAWP process and city code enforcement procedures and timeliness. Staff also recommends that prior to pursuing this option, the GHI Board of Directors should take an official stand on supporting the designation and guidelines. Julia Eichhorst, GHI president, spoke on this issue. She said that the board did not take a position be-

cause GHI members had voted so strongly in favor of the designation, making an official board position unnecessary. Sixty-eight percent of those voting were in favor of it.

### Benefits of Designation

Craze prefaced all of her remarks by acknowledging Greenbelt's historic treasures and the need to protect them. This designation would grant the city an additional form of protection, she said, though such protection would not be absolute. Federal and state authorities must consider the impact of projects using their funds, but they also have the final word on their projects. She said that some level of protection is already in place and that more could be established in ways that would keep the city in control of its architecture and infrastructure, instead of passing it on to the county, which lacks local accountability.

The main benefit would be financial incentives to GHI. According to the report, the Ad Hoc Committee estimated that GHI would be refunded up to \$80,000 a year on property taxes. The savings would be achieved through a ten per cent tax credit for approved rehabilitations.

### Council Debates

Councilmember Rodney Roberts disputed the suggestion that GHI's proposed tree replacement project would not be approved by the HPC, saying "It is hard to believe we couldn't plant trees." He agreed the document is not perfect, but thought the city should move ahead with seeking the designation.

Regarding the new tax credit program, Roberts asked whether GHI would get a benefit from overall work done every year, and Craze said she did not know.

Councilmember Alan Turnbull supported going for the designation for the added protection it would afford the city's historic

assets. He noted that the city does not always have the resources to take proper care of what it has. In his opinion, seeking the designation would support the city's attempts to achieve zoning authority over itself because it would indicate to county officials that "we would use zoning law in a sophisticated way."

Turnbull acknowledged that the staff report has raised some serious issues and noted later that it did not address any fiscal impact of the designation on the city. The city might lose revenue due to lower taxes, but might gain it later if properties within the historic district here appreciate at a higher rate, as they have in some other historic districts nearby. He does not want to defer action, however. He wants the revision of the documents to be part of seeking designation, and to re-initiate public involvement of all property owners, not just GHI. He said the process needs to bring all of the government-built town into the system.

Councilmember Edward Putens indicated he wanted more clarity on some of the issues raised by the staff report before going forward, although he said he is in favor of obtaining the designation. Davis felt there was need for a public hearing before going forward with seeking designation. She also expressed seri-

ous concerns about the role of the city and about involving properties without historic significance.

White favored the option to defer pursuit of local historic district designation while city staff works with HPC staff to revise and modify the document to address staff concerns, then return the document to council for review and "consideration whether to proceed, proceed with modifications, or opt out of the local historic district designation process." Approval of the revised guidelines should be sought from the GHI Board of Directors. He said he wants clarity on resolution of conflicts between the city and the HPC, an evaluation of the fiscal impacts to the city and to property owners.

White moved to defer action on the designation and authorize city staff to work toward revising the document for clarity and re-formatting, as they recommended in the report; identify city projects and describe to what level they would be subject to HPC review; ensure that the document contains no conflicts between the guidelines and other enforceable regulations; and to consider other alternatives like the new tax credit program Craze spoke about. The motion carried four to one, with Roberts casting the sole dissenting vote.



## OFFICIAL NOTICE RESOLUTIONS TO REVISE GREENBELT CITY CHARTER

At its regular meeting on January 28, 2002, the City Council adopted two resolutions to amend the City Charter. As required by state law, these resolutions will be posted in their entirety for forty (40) days, until March 9, 2002, at the Municipal Building. They can also be found on the City's Web site at <http://www.ci.greenbelt.md.us>. Copies may also be requested from the City Clerk. The charter amendment resolutions will become effective on March 19, 2002, unless a proper petition to submit the amendment(s) to the voters on a referendum is filed as permitted by law. This notice is to provide a fair summary of both resolutions.

### Charter Amendment Resolution No. 2002-1

*A Resolution of the City of Greenbelt, Adopted Pursuant to the Authority of Article XI-E of the Constitution of Maryland and Section 13 of Article 23a of the Annotated Code of Maryland, (2001Replacement Volume as Amended), Title "Corporations-Municipal," Subtitle "Charter Amendments," to Amend the Charter of the City of Greenbelt Found, in Whole or in Part, in the Compilation of Municipal Charters of Maryland (1983 Edition as Amended), as Prepared by the Department of Legislative Reference Pursuant to Chapter 77 of the Acts of the General Assembly of Maryland of 1983, by Repealing and Re-enacting with Amendments Section 55 (a), Titled "Bonds-Issuance, Authorization."*

The purpose of the above-titled resolution is to revise the statement of the City's debt limitation in order to conform with the new state law, Ch. 80, Acts of 2000, also known as the Truth in Taxation law, which changed the real property assessment law from a program of fractional property assessments to a system of full market value assessments. Limits previously stated as ten (10) percent of valuation will be amended to four (4) percent of valuation, in order that the City's actual debt limitations will remain essentially unchanged.

### Charter Amendment Resolution No. 2002-2

*A Resolution of the City of Greenbelt, Adopted Pursuant to the Authority of Article XI-E of the Constitution of Maryland and Section 13 of Article 23a of the Annotated Code of Maryland, (2001Replacement Volume as Amended), Title "Corporations-Municipal," Subtitle "Charter Amendments," to Amend the Charter of the City of Greenbelt Found, in Whole or in Part, in the Compilation of Municipal Charters of Maryland (1983 Edition as Amended), as Prepared by the Department of Legislative Reference Pursuant to Chapter 77 of the Acts of the General Assembly of Maryland of 1983, by Repealing and Re-enacting with Amendment "Elections" Section 14(b), Titled "Referendum."*

The purpose of the above-titled resolution is to correct a typographical error in Section 14(b) to clarify that the Council may place on the ballot at regular or special elections not only questions required by law to be submitted to the voters but also such questions as Council may wish to submit to the voters.

For additional information, call the City Clerk at 301-474-8000.

Kathleen Gallagher, City Clerk

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